

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 103072

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MO. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. FRENCH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS: EVE OF ROUND TWO: AS THE CAMPAIGN DRAWS TO A CLOSE, THE LATEST POLLS CALL THE ELECTION DEAD EVEN, BUT WITH 12-13 PER CENT OF THE VOTERS UNDECIDED. THE ELECTION COULD BE DECIDED BY THE CHABAN FIRST-ROUND VOTERS--MANY CHABAN SUPPORTERS MADE CLEAR THAT THEIR SUPPORT FOR GISCARD WAS LUKEWARM, AND MITTERRAND'S STRATEGY IS BASED ON THE HOPE OF WINNING OVER 15 PER CENT OF CHABAN'S VOTE. THE OVERSEAS VOTE, REPRESENTING 2 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL, COULD ALSO BE DECISIVE IN A CLOSE ELECTION. (STATE)

2. PORTUGAL'S PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OUTLINES GOALS: ACCORDING TO THE STATEMENT OF BASIC PRINCIPLES RELEASED MAY 16, THE GUIDELINES FOR THE NEW PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT INCLUDE:

--INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WILL BE ENLARGED AND DIVERSI-

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 103072

FIED, WITH EXISTING TREATIES RESPECTED. COMMERCIAL

AND POLITICAL RELATIONS WITH THE EC COUNTRIES WILL BE INTENSIFIED.

--OVERSEAS POLICY WILL RECOGNIZE THAT A SOLUTION TO THE WARS IS ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL. DEFENSIVE OPERATIONS IN THE TERRITORIES WILL BE MAINTAINED "WHEN NECESSARY TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY."

--CIVIL LIBERTIES AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE PRESS WILL BE GUARANTEED. THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND THE PENAL CODE WILL BE REFORMED.

--PERSONS FOUND TO BE CORRUPT, TO HAVE ABUSED THEIR POWER OR HARMED THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF CITIZENS WILL BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL.

--EQUALITY OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY WILL BE ASSURED, AND PRIVATE INVESTMENT AND SAVINGS WILL BE ENCOURAGED.

EMBASSY LISBON NOTED THAT THE PROGRAM WAS PRODUCED BY THE JUNTA AND HANDED DOWN AS "MARCHING ORDERS," ANOTHER INDICATION THAT THE MILITARY INTENDS TO RETAIN EFFECTIVE POWER THROUGHOUT THE LIFE OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT. (STATE)

3. SOVIETS REQUEST RED CROSS HELP FOR HELICOPTER CREW:
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SOVIET RED CROSS SOCIETY HAS REQUESTED THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE USE HIS INFLUENCE IN PERSUADING THE CHINESE TO PERMIT EITHER A SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE OR A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE TO MEET WITH THE CAPTURED SOVIET HELICOPTER CREW AND "TO RENDER THEM NECESSARY ASSISTANCE." (TICKER)

4. LEBANON MAY REQUEST SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING: BEFORE THE EXTENT OF THE ISRAELI RETALIATORY RAIDS ON PALESTINIAN CAMPS IN LEBANON BECAME KNOWN, THE LEBANESE MISSION APPARENTLY WANTED TO AVOID A COUNCIL MEETING. HOWEVER, STAFF-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS OTHER MISSIONS NOW BELIEVE THAT A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING IS ALMOST INEVITABLE.
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 103072

(STATE)

5. VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT PEREZ ANNOUNCES PETROLEUM REVERSION:
THE GOV WILL PROCEED TO TAKE BACK PETROLEUM CONCESSIONS THAT OTHERWISE WOULD NOT REVERT UNTIL THE 1980'S AND 1990'S, AND ALSO PLANS TO CREATE A "HOLDING COMPANY" TO EXERCISE CONTROL OVER OIL COMPANIES. ASSETS OF THE COMPANIES WILL PASS TO STATE OWNERSHIP. (STATE)

6. KHMER PARLIAMENT CHALLENGES CABINET: AND HAS SUMMONED
PRIME MINISTER LONG BORET AND THE ENTIRE CABINET TO APPEAR

BEFORE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN AN APPARENT ATTEMPT TO
BRING DOWN THE CABINET. LON NOL HAS STATED TO LONG BORET
THAT HE WOULD AGAIN SUSPEND PARLIAMENT'S POWER IF NECES-
SARY. (STATE) RUSH

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